

*9 March 2006*  
*Thursday*

## **READINGS**

Psalm 46; Genesis 39:1-23; I Corinthians 2:14-3:15; Mark 2:1-12

## **DEVOTION**

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on.

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Mark 2:1-5 (NIV)

I know all of us at one time or another have felt like this paralyzed man. Struggling to see Jesus when there's no way to get through the crowd by ourselves. I can remember when I was younger and all the struggles I went through with having alcoholic parents. Trying to be a kid and a grown up all at the same time was not easy. Before I began my walk with Christ, God blessed me with Christian friends who helped lead me to him. Twenty-five years later God continues to bless me with Christian friends who guide and help me keep my faith.

Today there are people all around us who are discouraged and carrying heavy loads just waiting to be brought to Jesus. We as Christians cannot stand by and let them struggle or get lost in the crowd. We must team up and share our faith!

**CPL Monica Olson 3rd COSCOM**